

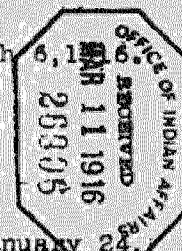
RECEIVED

JUL 05 2006

ASIA-OFA

5-1100
(El Tejen-Indians) (Kern Co. Calif.).Land-Alletments DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
38388-14
131574-15
P B M
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Fresno, Calif., March 6, 1916

Commissioner Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As stated in my preceeding letter of January 24, 1916, relative to the above named Indians, with the view, as suggested in Office letter of "DEC 15 1915" that I might be able to procure for these Indians a suitable small tract of land in vicinity of their present locality purchasable at a reasonable price upon which they would be willing to locate, in my recent return trip north from San Diego stepped off at Bakersfield and again visited their Ranoheria and vicinity.

I spent the better parts of four days in company with Mr. T.C. Castro of Bakersfield, and after reaching these Indians took with us three of their leading men as home, including their Chief, Juan Lezada, in our efforts to ^{find} them a suitable location that ^{site} could be purchased, without success.

It was the impression of Mr Castro, Mr. Emmens and some of the Indians that we would be able to find such location that could be purchased at reasonable price from some one or more of the 3 or 4 owners of small places up the canyon to the east from present Ranoheria, and accordingly we put in close hard work on that line, going as far as we could by vehicles, and then by saddle horses, meeting all the owners suggested, but regret to say met with complete and absolute failure. The only one that would agree to sell was a Mr. McKinzie, who, after first getting his wife's consent, 26-

Missing
P 2

Page 3.

the Piute and Loraine Indians in Kern County, California, deemed it advisable to visit those localities; a trip of three days from Bakersfield and return; however, again without success.

I regret to have to report that my impression is that the removal of these Tejon Indians very far from their present location is going to prove a very serious and difficult proposition.

The Chief, Lozada, being rather an intelligent Indian will not seriously object to moving, and will do all in his power to influence his people to ^{do} those things for their best interests.

He has been so treated by the ranch people, more especially by J.J. Lopez, manager; his house having been burned, native not to rebuild, that he must get rid of an old brood-sow and her shoats and recently written notice served on him to vacate and remove from the syndicate holdings, have all combined to cause him to very much desire to move, though he is seemingly attached and devoted to his people and they to him. The most serious trouble is these Indians were born, raised and have never lived elsewhere than at and very near their present location, and Indian-like permit sentiment to almost entirely overshadow judgment.

I am advised by a posted land man at Bakersfield that possibly I might be able to find a suitable location for these Indians in Townships 30 and 32 South, Ranges 30 and 35 East, Kern County, that there are a few Indians already living in these Townships; that they ^{are} well watered and wooded and more or less small narrow rich valleys along the canyon streams.

I am calling on the G.L.O. at Visalia to advise me as to the Government land in these blocks, which information may suggest an investigation. In this connection beg to be advised just how far

25

Page 4.

I shall go. That is, under the law is the G.L.O. forced to charge for furnishing me maps, data, field notes and such information as I may need to properly locate lands with the view of determining their desirability for Indian allotments or Rancheria Homes?

During my recent trip to the north of Piute, ^{with} the data and small compass kindly furnished me by the local Forest Ranger at Loraine, and the assistance of some of the local Indians, that Sections 4, 6, 8, 18, 22, 24 and 26, Tp. 29 S., R. 33, E., M.D.M. Kern County is Government land, and that there is more or less water on most of these section, as well as most of them have spots of agri. land. My investigation was entirely too hurried to conclude with any certainty the extent of these lands worth while for allotments. The Forest Ranger is of the opinion that several desirable allotments could be worked out of the last named sections. I found by census compiled of the Indians in and near Loraine and Piute that there are over 100, of which less than have of the adult male have ~~no~~ allotments. A number of these Indians came to me asking that I try and assist them in securing land. I am of the opinion that much valuable service can be rendered these, and Indians in other localities, in way of securing allotments. If I am to take up this line of work I should be equipped with proper instruments and data. I am anxious before leaving this part of the State to return to the locality of Piute and Loraine and said Townships 30 and 32, hoping that I may be able to find a suitable location for these Tejon Indians, as well as likely a number of allotments for the Lorain and Piute Indians.

On my return to Bakersfield from Piute received the enclosed letter from Mr. Scott, attorney for Tejon ranch syndicate, advising

28

Page 5.

Mr. Lopez desired to see me. He was not in Bakersfield when I first reached there nor for several days, having been summoned to Los Angeles as a witness. I met Mr. Lopez at the appointed date in Judge Scott's office. Though a man of foreign blood, Mexican and Spanish, apparently the latter predominating, found him to be almost a Cherterfield in his manners.

He had just returned from Los Angeles, where, of course, he must have had the information through Mr Chandler of my report wherein among other things I spoke of the very serious charge made by Mr. Castro, though he made no reference to/ same or any thing connected therewith. He expressed in the most pleasing terms his delight on meeting me; that he would be delighted to render me every possible assistance in my efforts to secure suitable land for the Indians; that his time and his auto and horses at the ranch were at my disposal, etc. I gathered from my interview with him that the Syndicate is growing more desirous to remove these Indians from its ranch holdings. One of his last remarks, coming rather in way of a question, was, when do you think you will be able to find a location for Lozada. Mr. Lopez ever phoned from the Ranch, night before I left Bakersfield, promised to soon make an investigation to the south of Syndicate holdings for a location for these Indians and would take 2 or 3 of them with him, and that he would write as soon as he returned. I have encouraged him along this line and assured him the Department will greatly appreciate his kind and generous assistance. I am still hopeful that soon a suitable location will be found for these people.

Very respectfully,

John J. Terrell
Special Indian Agent.

29